

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STOCKH 05418 061109Z  
ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 /020 W  
-----083579 061156Z /23

R 281406Z DEC 77  
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2643

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 5418

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: OVIP (BURENSTAM LINDER), SW, EGEN  
SUBJ: SHORT BIOGRAPHIC SKETCH OF MINISTER OF COMMERCE FOR HIS  
VISIT TO US

REF: STOCKHOLM 5385

1. STAFFAN BURENSTAM LINDER WAS APPOINTED MINISTER OF COMMERCE  
IN OCTOBER 1976. HE HAS BEEN A MEMBER OF THE RIKSDAG (MODERATE  
PARTY) SINCE 1969, WHERE HE SERVED MOST NOTABLY ON THE FINANCE  
COMMITTEE. HE WAS BORN IN 1931.

2. CAREER: DOCTOR OF ECONOMICS AT THE STOCKHOLM SCHOOL OF  
ECONOMICS 1961; ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AT STOCKHOLM SCHOOL OF  
ECONOMICS SINCE 1961. STUDIED 1958-61 AT MIT, UNIVERSITY OF  
CALIFORNIA (BERKELEY), AND YALE UNIVERSITY. VISITING PROFESSOR  
AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY 1962-63 AND YALE UNIVERSITY 1966.

3. PUBLICATIONS: "AN ESSAY ON TRADE AND TRANSFORMATION" 1961,  
"TRADE AND TRADE POLICY FOR DEVELOPMENT" 1967, "THE HARRIED  
LEISURE CLASS" 1970.

4. PERSONAL: MARRIED WITH THREE CHILDREN. SPECIAL INTERESTS:  
WALKING IN THE MOUNTAINS, SKATING, CROSS COUNTRY SKIING.

5. LINDER LIKES TO THINK OF HIMSELF AS STIMULATING AND EVEN  
CONTROVERSIAL. HE HAS BEEN KNOWN TO INTRODUCE SOMEWHAT REVO-  
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LUTIONARY IDEAS AT OTHERWISE INSIGNIFICANT AND LOW KEY MEETINGS,  
WHICH ON OCCASION HIS SUBORDINATES HAVE FELT CALLED UPON TO  
DISCLAIM. HE IS CURRENTLY VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE EXISTING  
STRUCTURE OF WORLD TRADE AND ON AT LEAST ONE OCCASION SUGGESTED  
THAT MODIFICATION OF GATT MAY BE NECESSARY TO ACCOMMODATE  
LOW-LABOR COST COUNTRIES SUCH AS THOSE IN THE FAR EAST. HE  
HAS ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT JAPAN'S PLACE IN THE WORLD

TRADING COMMUNITY BECAUSE OF THE CLOSE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN  
GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY WHICH HE BELIEVES GIVES JAPANESE  
PRODUCERS UNFAIR ADVANTAGES.  
KENNEDY-MINOTT

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** VISITS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**TAGS:** OVIP, EGEN, SW, (BURENSTAM, LINDER)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009